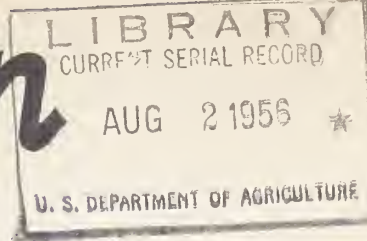


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Foreign



CROPS AND MARKETS

VOLUME 73

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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LATE NEWS

Milk Producers Press for Prohibition of Powder Milk Imports. The Chamber of Agriculture of the Sierra is supporting a petition of the milk producers of the region for a complete prohibition of imports of powdered milk. The petition has been presented to the Monetary Board. The producers say that their production is sufficient to supply the needs of the whole country.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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JAPAN'S 1956 FLUE-CURED ACREAGE DOWN - BURLEY UP

A recent estimate by the Japanese Tobacco Monopoly Corporation places this year's tobacco acreage at 185,898 acres as compared with 185,003 acres last year. However, total production, due to unfavorable weather conditions, is expected to be about 28 million pounds below the 1955 harvest of 329.8 million pounds. Heavy rains and unseasonably low temperatures retarded growth and caused replantings in some areas.

The 1956 flue-cured acreage is down about 1,100 acres from the 1955 area of 119,974 acres. However, the acreage of Burley and native types are 42.5 and 1.4 percent, respectively, above 1955 crop figures. The sharp increase in Burley acreage from 2,639 to 3,762 acres was due primarily to the increased consumer demand for the new brand of cigarettes "IKOI", introduced on the market last March and made entirely from domestic Burley. The area planted to Burley is expected to increase further during the next several years.

BLEU-FRANCE TRADE AGREEMENT INCLUDES TOBACCO

A new Trade Agreement has been signed between the Belgian-Luxembourg Economic Union (BLEU) and France following the conclusion of negotiations held in Paris on June 6, 1956. The Trade Agreement is valid from April 1, 1956 to March 31, 1957 and governs exchanges of commodities between France and French overseas territories on the one hand and the BLEU, the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi on the other.

The French monetary zone will receive about 23.0 million Belgian francs (U. S. \$461,196) worth of leaf tobacco and manufactured tobacco products from BLEU and the Belgian territories in Africa in exchange mainly for cut flowers, hops, fruits and vegetables. The detail breakdown in terms of million Belgian francs is as follows:

France - according to needs
Algeria - 9.5
French Overseas Territories-10.0
Tunisia - 0.5
Morocco - 3.0+ according to needs

ITALIAN TRADE IN TOBACCO DOWN

Italian imports of leaf tobacco during the first quarter of 1956 totaled 4.3 million pounds as compared with 10.3 million pounds during the corresponding period of 1955. Curtailed imports of Bulgarian leaf accounted for most of the decline. Takings from Turkey and Greece were also down slightly from the January - March 1955 levels.

Exports of Italian leaf during the first 3 months of 1956 totaled 2.7 million pounds, 4.5 million pounds below the same period in 1955. Two of the principal export outlets, the Soviet Union and France, which took no Italian leaf this year accounted for most of the decline. Shipments to Western Germany and the United States were also below last year, while the Netherlands, Switzerland, Indochina and the United Kingdom increased their takings of Italian leaf.

FRANCE INCREASES CROP INSURANCE ON TOBACCO

A new law was enacted by the French Government increasing crop insurance on tobacco effective May 14, 1956, according to a recent report. The principal provisions of the new law are as follows:

- (a) Premiums to be paid by the growers are increased from 3 to 4 percent plus a charge of 0.5 percent for the reinsurance fund and an increase of from 0.3 to 0.5 percent for the Autonomous Fund for the Administration of the National Defense Bonds.
- (b) Indemnification in the future is to be at 80 percent of the estimated loss.
- (c) Risks are extended to cover crop damage from epidemic disease, but in such case the indemnity will not exceed 70 percent of the estimated value of the crop and will be less than 70 percent if the value of the tobacco delivered is less than 50 percent of the estimated normal crop.

Crop insurance on French tobacco has been in effect since 1895. Funds were obtained from a levy of 3 percent on all deliveries of tobacco but risks covered only losses from hail, floods and hurricanes. In 1929 several changes were made. A system of reinsurance was established to ensure adequate funds in case of especially heavy damage in individual regions; risks were extended to include damage from frost before October 1; and premiums of up to 5 percent were authorized. The indemnity prior to May 14, 1956 could not exceed 80 percent of the estimated net crop value.

GREEK 1956 TOBACCO ACREAGE DOWN

Preliminary estimates of the 1956 tobacco crop by the Hellenic Tobacco Board places Greece's 1956 tobacco acreage at 300,313 acres. The smaller acreage is attributed to difficulties experienced by growers in disposing of the record 1955 crop.

The 1955 tobacco production has been revised slightly upwards to 222.9 million pounds from an earlier estimate of 219.1 million. This revision is attributed to an earlier underestimate of Macedonia and Thrace production.

Purchases of the 1955 crop from farmers through May 1956 amounted to 149.3 million pounds of exportable quality and 2.3 million pounds of domestic. Of the quantity sold this year, the Greek Government, through June 24 purchased 16.2 million pounds. An additional 58.9 million pounds was estimated as held by growers on June 1, of which about 35 million was of exportable quality.

AUSTRALIA'S 1955-56 WHEAT EXPORTS SOMEWHAT LARGER THAN A YEAR EARLIER

Current indications are that Australia's combined exports of wheat and flour during the 1955-56 (July-June) fiscal year will amount to approximately 100 million bushels compared with the 93 million bushels exported in 1954-55. Official figures show that exports during the first 9 months (July-March) of the year amounted to only 66 million bushels compared with 70 million during the corresponding period a year earlier. However, figures on overseas clearances indicate that exports during the last 3 months (April-June) of the year amounted to 32 million bushels compared with 23 million in the same period a year ago.

At the estimated 100 million bushel level, the country's 1955-56 exports compare with the average of 102.2 million bushels for the 5-year period ending with 1953-54 and with the average of 72.0 million bushels for the 5-year period ending with 1948-49. Exports during the 5-year prewar period ending with 1938-39 averaged 106.2 million bushels annually.

The official export figures for the first 9 months of the year show that Asiatic countries continued to provide the outlet for the bulk of Australia's combined exports of wheat and flour, taking the equivalent of 33.3 million bushels in that period, or more than 50 percent of the total. While complete details relative to the destination of the exports during the last 3 months of the year are not yet available, indications are that the Asiatic area as a whole continued as the principal destination.

Shipments to the United Kingdom, the largest single foreign outlet for the country's wheat exports, amounted to 14.8 million bushels during the first 9 months of the year. Overseas clearances for the last 3 months of the year indicate that shipments to Britain in that period amounted to approximately 8.5 million bushels. On that basis, total shipments to that one market amounted to 23.3 million bushels in 1955-56 compared with 22.4 million in 1954-55.

Australian Exports of Wheat and Flour During Stated Periods

Destination	July-March 1954-55			July-March 1955-56		
	Wheat	Flour	Total	Wheat	Flour	Total
	1,000 bushels)					
Europe						
United Kingdom	12,350	2,008	14,358	12,953	1,806	14,759
Ireland	1,639	-	1,639	430	-	430
Netherlands	1,792	-	1,792	35	-	35
West Germany	5,202	-	5,202	1,406	-	1,406
Malta	281	-	281	193	-	193
Cyprus	687	-	687	955	-	955
Total	21,951	2,008	23,959	15,972	1,806	17,778
Asia						
Syria	-	-	-	2,747	-	2,747
Iraq	-	-	-	2,477	-	2,477
Arabian Peninsula	-	347	347	-	548	548
Aden	-	781	781	-	414	414
India	13,626	2	13,628	1,661	4	1,665
Ceylon	-	3,807	3,807	-	4,232	4,232
Burma	-	898	898	-	351	351
Thailand	-	476	476	-	547	547
British Malaya	549	6,227	6,776	480	4,505	4,985
Indonesia	-	3,364	3,364	-	5,918	5,918
Hong Kong	-	209	209	-	236	236
Japan	1,093	-	1,093	9,186	-	9,186
Total	15,268	16,111	31,379	16,551	16,755	33,306
Africa						
Egypt	-	371	371	-	105	105
Mauritius	-	704	704	-	484	484
Mozambique	226	-	226	475	-	475
Rhodesia and Nyasaland	1,944	-	1,944	1,610	-	1,610
Total	2,170	1,075	3,245	2,085	589	2,674
Miscellaneous						
New Zealand	6,206	-	6,206	7,006	-	7,006
Fiji Islands	-	372	372	-	328	328
Br. Possessions, n.e.o.	665	1,281	1,946	1,006	1,306	2,312
Fr. Possessions, n.e.c.	-	346	346	-	337	337
Foreign Countries, n.e.c.	1,756	593	2,349	2,272	471	2,743
Total	8,627	2,592	11,219	10,284	2,112	12,396
World total	48,016	21,786	69,802	44,892	21,592	66,484

JAMAICA ENCOURAGES PRODUCTION BY DECONTROL OF PRIME BEEF PRICES

To encourage meat production and reduce import requirements the Government of Jamaica has developed a program which permits more than one-fifth of the best locally produced beef to be sold at regular market prices, rather than at controlled prices. In addition producers will be permitted to sell 1,000 head of cattle each year to the luxury hotel trade at uncontrolled prices.

Each processor will be given a quota of beef which can be sold in the open market at competitive prices. The processors in turn will be required to buy a specific number of animals produced on small or middle sized farms and by members of the Livestock Association or by the Reynolds Metals Organization in St. Ann.

It is reported that 47,500 head of cattle were slaughtered in Jamaica in 1953, 12,500 in Kingston and 35,000 in the rest of the country. Slaughter in areas outside the city remained relatively large in 1953-55 but slaughter in Kingston dropped sharply. The total slaughter in 1955 was reported to be only 8,700 head and the city experienced a severe meat shortage.

Jamaican imports of beef rose from around 1 million pounds in 1953 to 2 million in 1955. From 1952 to 1955 imports of processed meat products increased from 3 to 6 million pounds. The United States shipped 1,215,000 pounds of beef to Jamaica in 1955 compared with 796,000 pounds a year earlier. Jamaica was the fifth largest export outlet for U. S. beef last year. U. S. exports of all kinds of meat to Jamaica in 1955 totaled 1,348,000 pounds compared with 877,000 in 1954.

The United States was a principal supplier of pork to Jamaica in former years but is now supplying only a small part of the market owing to a quarantine against uncooked pork products from the United States.

BRITISH HONDURAS INCREASES MEAT IMPORTS

British Honduras imports of meat rose from 573,000 pounds in 1954 to 701,800 pounds in 1955. Apparently more than a third of the imports in 1955 were from the United States.

Indications are that very little change has occurred in livestock production in recent years. The price of beef is still being controlled and continues to be the main obstacle to increased production in a country where considerable potential exists. Pork production is small owing to the limited production of feed grains.

Before meat can be imported licenses must be issued by their Treasury Department. Licenses may be withheld if the products can be obtained from a Sterling area since dollars may be reserved for other necessities. Established importers are allocated blanket quotas annually within which they may purchase abroad any items they desire. Foreign exchange is available at a slight premium over that covered by the official permits.

British Honduras: Imports of
Meat Products, 1954 and 1955

Item	1954	1955
	Pounds	Pounds
Hams and Bacon.....	34,000	65,200
Pork, pickled.....	199,400	213,100
Beef, pickled.....	161,300	146,400
Canned meats.....	178,300	277,100
Total 1/	573,000	701,800

1/ Excludes small amounts of miscellaneous meats products.

U.S. 1955-56 GRAIN EXPORTS
CLOSE TO ALL-TIME RECORD

United States exports of grain and grain products during the 1955-56 marketing season (July-June) reached a total of 17.5 million long tons grain equivalent compared with 11.9 million tons in 1954-55, an increase of 46.4 percent. At the indicated level, the nation's grain exports were close to the all-time record of 18.3 million tons in 1951-52, when the quantity moved into export channels was the largest ever exported by any one country in a single year.

The upward trend in exports, despite many unfavorable factors such as increased export availabilities in major exporting countries and continued governmental encouragement for an expansion in production in many of the importing countries, can be attributed to a number of factors. Outstanding among these were the opportunities provided for moving grain into export channels under one or more of the surplus disposal programs authorized by Congress, increased dollar earnings and holdings in a number of foreign countries, and increased feed grain requirements abroad as a result of a continued upward trend in livestock numbers and in the quantities of feed-stuffs fed per animal unit.

While the country's wheat and flour exports in 1955-56 show an increase of approximately 24 percent in grain equivalent compared with those for the preceding year, the outstanding feature of the trade for the year was the large increase in exports of feedgrains (corn, oats, barley and grain sorghums). Exports of these commodities reached a total of 7,650,000 long tons, an all-time record. This represents an increase of more than 88 percent compared with the 4,068,000 tons of feed grains sold abroad in 1954-55.

United States export of grains and grain products

Grain	1934-35 to 1938-39	1945-46 to 1949-50	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51
<u>1,000 long tons</u>					
<u>Food Grains</u>					
Wheat.....	1/ 1,514	11,141	13,489	8,168	9,801
Rye.....	38	101	136	145	148
Rice 2/.....	3/ 99	406	444	501	406
Total.....	1,651	11,648	14,069	8,814	10,355
<u>Coarse Grains</u>					
Corn.....	947	1,921	2,337	2,833	2,974
Oats.....	64	304	359	223	97
Barley.....	208	433	593	514	857
Sorghums.....	4	481	862	703	1,969
Total.....	1,223	3,139	4,151	4,273	5,897
Total all grains.....	2,874	14,787	18,220	13,087	16,252

United States exports of grain and grain products, continued

Grain	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	4/1955-56
<u>1,000 long tons</u>					
<u>Food Grains</u>					
Wheat.....	12,723	8,495	5,802	7,348	9,107
Rye.....	115	8	5/	75	175
Rice 2/.....	770	766	703	440	535
Total.....	13,608	9,269	6,505	7,863	9,817
<u>Coarse Grains</u>					
Corn.....	2,108	3,152	2,777	2,043	3,076
Oats.....	66	59	49	220	409
Barley.....	665	794	398	929	2,192
Sorghums.....	1,807	283	209	876	1,973
Total.....	4,646	4,288	3,433	4,068	7,650
Total all grains.....	18,254	13,557	9,938	11,931	17,467

1/ Includes flour not wholly of U.S. wheat. 2/ Rice exports are on an August-July year. 3/ Average for 1935-36 through 1939-40. 4/ Preliminary. 5/ Less than 500 tons.

U.K., ALTERS LICENSING ARRANGEMENTS FOR COTTON IMPORTS

Imports of raw cotton into the United Kingdom that originate in, or are consigned from, dollar account countries will no longer be permitted under "General Open License" as in the past. Effective July 4, 1956, imports of such cotton will be authorized by "Open Individual License" permitting unlimited imports provided the importer complies with the appropriate procedure for the use of any funds of the United States Government which may be available to finance cotton imports.

The change in regulations is not intended to limit the volume of imports, but to assure the use of all funds available from this source for cotton purchases.

PORTUGUESE ALMOND CROP DOWN

The 1956 commercial almond crop in Portugal is forecast at only 2,400 short tons according to latest reports. This would mean less than half of an average crop. Average production (1949-53) was 5,100 tons. It is the second successive short crop, the 1955 crop having totaled only 3,400 tons. Stocks of almonds in Portugal are practically non-existent.

1956 PORTUGUESE FIG CROP FORECAST SAME AS LAST YEAR

The 1956 production of edible dried figs in Portugal is expected to be about the same as last year, approximately 11,000 short tons. Current stocks of dried edible figs in Portugal are reported as practically exhausted.

RECORD WOOL SALES AT SYDNEY

A total of 86,433 bales of wool were sold at the Sydney wool sale held July 2-5. This was a new record in sales volume at Sydney for a single series sale. Average prices declined by 4 to 8 percent from the level of the previous week's sales.

The carry-over of unsold wool "received into store" totaled about 50 million pounds, greasy basis, on July 1, 1956 (Foreign Agricultural Service estimate). The Sydney sale reduced the carry-over of 1955-56 wool by about 26 million pounds. A total of 10 million pounds was scheduled for sale at Newcastle July 10-12. The carry-over from the 1955-56 Australian wool clip is an estimated 15 million pounds, greasy basis, compared with 17 million pounds from the 1954-55 season.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL PRICES

Wool Prices: Average raw wool costs, clean basis, on Australian auction floors, by quality classification.

(Current prices with comparisons)

Type and Grade	Week Ended			Year Ago 7-1-55
	6-29-56	7-6-56		
	U.S. DOLLARS PER POUND			
<u>Combing Wools</u>				
70's Good.....	1.54	1.48	1.44	
Average.....	1.48	1.42	1.37	
64's Good.....	1.43	1.33	1.30	
Average.....	1.37	1.28	1.25	
60's Good.....	1.27	1.18	1.20	
Average.....	1.20	1.11	1.15	
58's Good.....	1.11	1.04	1.14	
Average.....	1.05	.98	--	
56's Good.....	.94	.91	1.04	
Average.....	.91	.88	--	
50's Good.....	.82	.78	.91	
Average.....	.80	.77	--	
<u>Carding Wools</u>				
Merino.....	.83	.77	.76	
Comeback.....	.73	.67	.72	
Fine Crossbred.....	.66	.62	.72	
Medium Crossbred.....	.64	.61	.72	

Source: Wool Statistical Service, Australian Wool Bureau.

COTTON EXPORTS FROM THE SUDAN AT RECORD VOLUME

Cotton exports from the Sudan were at record volume during August-May 1955-56, amounting to 450,000 bales (500 pounds gross), or more than twice the 194,000 bales exported during the comparable period of 1954-55. Part of the unusually heavy export volume since August 1955 was made possible by the existence of large stocks of old crop cotton still on hand on August 1, 1955. Most of the Sudan's cotton is exported to the United Kingdom and India, with smaller quantities to Western Germany, Italy and France.

Quantities exported during August-May 1955-56 with comparable 1954-55 figures in parentheses were: the United Kingdom 180,000 bales (78,000); India 88,000 (37,000); Western Germany 46,000 (14,000); Italy 39,000 (31,000); and France 25,000 (20,000).

The 7th official estimate of the 1955-56 crop places production at 435,000 bales, a slight increase over previous estimates. The upward revision is attributed to higher yields per acre than were earlier expected in most areas, particularly the Gezira. The average quality of the crop this year is somewhat below last year. Sakel or "S" cotton is off a little, and Lambert or "L" cotton is down considerably. The acreage estimate remained practically unchanged at 598,000 acres. The increased yield was reported to be principally in the lower grades.

The bulk of Sudan's cotton is harvested from January to March, and is sold by auction beginning in March. Most of the higher grades were sold early in the season at prices which rose steadily until mid-May. Since then they have dropped slightly. Sales of the lower grades were much slower, and by early June there was little activity in the market. Supplies of lower grades were considered quite adequate and mills apparently were delaying purchases waiting for a drop in prices. However, the Gezira Board expects to have no significant stocks remaining at the end of the crop year.

GERMANY'S COTTON IMPORTS AT LAST YEAR'S LEVEL BUT U. S. SHARE DECLINES

Germany's cotton imports during August-April 1955-56 amounted to 964,000 bales (500 pounds gross) or approximately the same as the 971,000 bales imported during the same months of 1954-55. The share of United States cotton dropped sharply, however, from 339,000 bales or 35 percent of the total last year, to only 62,000 bales or 7 percent of the total in the current period. Imports from Mexico increased from 124,000 bales or 13 percent of the total last year to 352,000 bales or 37 percent of the total this year. Other shifts in sources of cotton imports included increases from the U.S.S.R., Sudan, Pakistan, Peru, and Nicaragua, and a sharp decline in cotton from Brazil.

A slight increase in the amount of United States cotton entering Germany was reported in April, and was expected to continue into May as a result of the million-bale sale of short-staple cotton. Total purchases by Germany under that program are now estimated at between 20,000 and 30,000 bales. After August 1 the United States share of cotton imports is expected to increase substantially due to increased forward purchases under the new competitive-bid program.

Cotton mill activities have been at a high level in recent months. Cotton consumption during August-March 1955-56 amounted to 870,000 bales or about 2 percent more than consumption of 849,000 bales during August-March 1954-55. The share of United States cotton in mill consumption has declined steadily throughout the 1955-56 season, dropping from 24,000 bales or 25 percent of the total in August 1955 to 13,000 bales or only 11 percent of the total in March 1956. Continuation of high-level mill activity is expected during the rest of the year as a result of the strong domestic demand and the steadily rising standard of living.

The impact on the textile industry of the tariff reductions on textiles as well as most other imports, effective July 1, 1956, cannot yet be determined. The tariff reductions were aimed at keeping the general economic boom under control. Although the textile industry has not experienced a boom thus far, and the price level has been stable or moving downward during recent years, it is possible that increased imports of textiles may limit future expansion in domestic textile production.

Stocks of cotton held by German mills on March 31, 1956, were estimated at 223,000 bales as compared with 240,000 on August 1, 1955, and 251,000 on March 31, 1955.

Prices of United States cotton have varied considerably in recent weeks, but now are on a competitive level with foreign growths. The German cotton trade desires to maintain stability by building up confidence in the new price levels. Reestablishment of the futures market by the Bremen Cotton Exchange is under consideration. The proposed futures contract, if it became a reality, would be based on SM 1-1/16 inch, the quality mostly used by German spinners. It is reported that the following growths would probably be tenderable: United States, Mexico, Turkey, Syria, Iran, and perhaps the U.S.S.R.

Recent movement of cotton prices in Bremen is shown in the table on page 15.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY: Imports of cotton from major countries of origin, average 1934-38, annual 1952-54, August-April 1954-55 and 1955-56

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of origin	Year beginning August 1				August-April	
	Average	1952	1953	1954	1954-55	1955-56
	1934-38					
	----- 1,000 bales -----					
Afghanistan.....	1/	9	23	10	9	2/
Argentina.....	49	8	11	6	6	0
Belgian Congo.....	13	76	42	26	17	22
Brazil.....	285	1	214	193	159	46
British East Africa:	1/	57	39	45	32	40
Egypt.....	174	127	128	93	72	75
El Salvador.....	1/	21	8	6	5	12
Guatemala.....	1/	0	2/	17	11	13
India.....	118	23	7	8	4	12
Iran.....	3/ 21	38	31	33	27	11
Mexico.....	1/	86	89	140	124	352
Nicaragua.....	1/	27	55	62	40	67
Pakistan.....	1/	92	35	19	8	32
Peru.....	83	32	55	51	38	60
Sudan.....	1/	28	26	17	13	44
Syria.....	1/	39	39	31	25	26
Turkey.....	48	134	67	54	29	22
United States.....	301	276	377	381	339	63
U.S.S.R.	1/	0	2/	6	2	42
Other countries....	83	10	18	13	11	25
Total.....	1,175	1,084	1,264	1,211	971	964

1/ If any, included in other countries.

2/ Less than 500 bales.

3/ 4-year average.

Source: Der Auswartigo Handel Deutschland and Monathiche Nachweise uber den Auswaritigen Handel; Agricultural Attaches, and other United States representatives abroad.

GERMANY: Cotton prices, c.i.f. Bremen, cash on arrival, average quotations, on or about dates shown, March-June 1956

(U. S. cents per pound)

A. U. S. cotton (Memphis/Orleans/Texas) and Mexican cotton (Matamoros) for shipment after August 1, 1956

Quality	March 15		May 2		May 15		June 1		June 16	
	U.S.	Mex.	U.S.	Mex.	U.S.	Mex.	U.S.	Mex.	U.S.	Mex.
	1/	2/	1/	1/	1/	1/	2/	3/	2/	3/
M 1".....	32.60	n.a.	31.32	n.a.	33.57	n.a.	31.00	n.a.	30.97	n.a.
M 1-1/32"....	33.41	32.30	32.22	32.86	34.24	34.01	31.85	32.01	31.59	31.55
M 1-1/16"....	33.98	32.50	32.88	32.96	34.84	34.26	32.30	32.28	32.09	31.65
SM 1".....	33.55	n.a.	32.36	n.a.	34.80	n.a.	32.35	n.a.	32.11	n.a.
SM 1-1/32"....	34.36	33.20	33.13	33.74	35.38	34.96	33.20	33.28	32.77	32.80
SM 1-1/16"....	34.66	33.40	33.81	33.86	35.98	35.16	33.65	33.54	33.31	32.95
GM 1-1/16"....	n.a.	33.90	34.53	34.46	36.76	35.81	34.65	34.35	34.76	33.50
GM 1-3/32"....	36.33	n.a.	35.31	34.81	37.43	36.26	35.20	34.82	35.46	33.85
GM 1-1/8"....	n.a.	n.a.	36.64	n.a.	38.35	n.a.	36.15	n.a.	36.26	35.10

B. Other growths: for shipment during months indicated in footnotes

	March 15	May 15	June 1	June 16
Brazil:				
M 1" v.l.sp.(std.4).....	4/ 31.30	5/ 30.05	5/ 29.90	6/ 29.35
SM 1" v.l.sp.(std.5).....	4/ 32.70	5/ 32.80	5/ 32.50	6/ 31.85
Syria:				
about M 1-1/32"	n.a.	7/ 31.00	n.a.	n.a.
about SM 1-1/32" - 1-1/16".....	n.a.	7/ 33.65	n.a.	n.a.
about SM 1-1/16".....	n.a.	n.a.	8/ 35.95	8/ 34.85
U.S.S.R.:				
about SM 1-1/16", f.cl. & f.st.....	9/ 34.40	10/ 34.70	10/ 34.85	n.a.
Uganda:				
AR/BP 52 about GM 1-1/8".....	11 44.20	7/ 49.15	7/ 49.10	6/ 46.85
1/ August shipment	5/ Jun/Jul. shipment (new crop)	9/ October shipment		
2/ August-Sept. shipment	6/ Jul/Sep. Shipment	10/ Oct/Dec shipment		
3/ Sep/Dec. Shipment	7/ June shipment	11/ March/April shipment		
4/ Apr/May shipment (new crop)	8/ Oct/Nov shipment			

Source: Quotations based on a survey by private sources of offers received by German mills from German importers. Averages represent offers covered by survey, usually 15 to 20, but not on all offers received by German mills.

CORRECTION: In the table on page 19 for the story "U. S. Cotton Exports Continue at Favorable Level in May", Foreign Crops and Markets, July 23, 1956, the column on the left under the heading "August-May" should be labeled 1954-55; the one on the right, 1955-56. Also the figure for Denmark under the 1954-55 column should read 20 instead of 21.

FINAL ESTIMATE OF INDIA'S 1955-56 COTTON ACREAGE INCREASED

The final official estimate of India's 1955-56 cotton acreage is for an area of 20,230,000 acres, or an increase of 8 percent over the 1954-55 area of 18,684,000 acres. Cotton production for 1955-56, however, was considerably below that of the previous year with the crop estimated at 3,800,000 bales (500 pounds gross) or 14 percent less than the 1954-55 crop of 4,400,000 bales. The decrease in production, in spite of the acreage increase, was attributed to excessive and untimely rains and floods during the growing period in North and Central India.

NORWAY LIBERALIZES IMPORTS OF ADDITIONAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Norway has extended its liberalization of agricultural products from the dollar area, effective July 1, 1956. In addition to lemons and grapefruit announced earlier, raisins, currants and dried prunes are now on the dollar free list. Included are also sausage casings, hog bristles, raw hides and skins, raw tobacco, oilseeds, certain other seeds, cotton, wool, hogs, tomato puree, lecithin, tallow, most marine oil, olive oil, rapeseed oil, and premier jus. For many of these commodities licenses have recently been granted freely so that no great change in import pattern is to be expected.

SEVERAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IMPORTING MORE BUTTER

France, Italy and Switzerland report butter imports in the first quarter of 1956 considerably above those for the corresponding quarter a year ago. The largest increase occurred in France, 17.2 million pounds, compared with 134,000 pounds last year. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, July 9, 1956). In the first quarter of 1955, France exported 11.3 million pounds to more than 10 countries.

Imports of butter into Switzerland during the first quarter totaled 4.8 million pounds, an increase of 14 percent over comparable 1955. Sweden was the largest supplier with 1.5 million pounds, followed by New Zealand with 1.3 million pounds. Denmark, Switzerland's most important source in this period in 1955, shipped only 1.0 million pounds this year.

Italy imported 3.6 million pounds, compared with 3.2 million pounds a year ago. New Zealand and Australia were the principal suppliers with 1.5 million pounds and 1.3 million pounds respectively.

EGYPT'S COTTON EXPORTS HEAVY AS PRICES INCREASE

Heavy volume of exports and rising prices have been the significant features of the cotton situation in Egypt during recent months. Exports of 1,319,000 bales (500 pounds gross) during August-May 1955-56 were 44 per cent higher than the 915,000 bales exported during the same period of 1954-55. Most of the increase was in exports to Czechoslovakia and China, each of which increased by about 300 percent. Sizeable increases were also shown for exports to Rumania, Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia, and the U.S.S.R., in contrast to only moderate increases for Switzerland, Italy, and France. Decreased exports to Western Germany, Spain, and the United Kingdom were reported. (See table page 18)

Cotton prices in Egypt increased steadily from January to May 1956, rising about 50 percent during the 5-month period. Since May, prices have fluctuated considerably and the market is reportedly very thin. Sales of a few hundred bales are sometimes sufficient to cause the futures market to rise the full 3 tallaris per kantar (1.74 cents a pound) which is the maximum fluctuation below or above the previous day's closing price permitted by law. The unusually heavy buying pressure by the Communist countries was seen as the principal cause of the upward price movement, which is shown in the following table:

EGYPT: Monthly average spot cotton prices at Alexandria,
January - May 1956 1/

(Equivalent U. S. cents a pound)

Month	Karnak		Menoufi		Giza 30	Ashmouni
	Good	Fully Good	Good	Fully Good	Good	Good
1956:						
January	48.03		44.08		38.28	34.88
February.....	52.53		-		44.83	39.41
March.....	53.80		47.16		46.29	42.20
April.....	60.21		52.03		53.60	48.63
May.....	68.20		56.42		-	58.08

1/ Prices exclude export tax of 4.77 cents a pound for Karnak and Menoufi, and of 1.28 cents for Giza 30 and Ashmouni.

EGYPT: Exports of cotton by countries of destination,
averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1952-54 and
August-May 1954-55 and 1955-56

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1					August-May	
	Average		1952	1953	1954	1954-55	1955-56
	1935-39	1945-49					
----- 1,000 bales -----							
Austria.....	<u>1</u> / 24	: <u>2</u> / 4	: 34	: 25	: 23	: 20	: 28
Belgium.....	18	: 17	: 22	: 23	: 18	: 16	: 17
Czechoslovakia.....	50	: 52	: 59	: 53	: 54	: 47	: 179
Denmark.....	<u>2</u> / 4	: <u>1</u> / 4	: 2	: 4	: 2	: 2	: 1
France.....	239	: 162	: 291	: 210	: 141	: 126	: 138
Germany, West.....	147	: <u>2</u> / 4	: 128	: 137	: 88	: 76	: 38
Hungary.....	18	: <u>2</u> / 4	: 27	: 25	: 34	: 20	: 34
Italy.....	105	: 164	: 170	: 125	: 79	: 74	: 88
Netherlands.....	6	: <u>1</u> / 40	: 47	: 26	: 21	: 18	: 23
Poland.....	32	: 16	: 27	: 5	: 36	: 29	: 48
Portugal.....	9	: <u>1</u> / 5	: 4	: 6	: 3	: 2	: 4
Rumania.....	<u>3</u> / 48	: <u>2</u> / 5	: 5	: 8	: 12	: 12	: 42
Spain.....	25	: 25	: 66	: 42	: 34	: 31	: 9
Sweden.....	13	: 17	: 18	: 8	: 3	: 3	: 5
Switzerland.....	72	: 33	: 68	: 68	: 48	: 37	: 56
United Kingdom.....	592	: 367	: 78	: 207	: 65	: 62	: 43
Yugoslavia.....	<u>2</u> / 4	: <u>2</u> / 6	: 18	: 15	: 14	: 9	: 16
Australia.....	<u>2</u> / 4	: 6	: 16	: 7	: 1	: 1	: 1
China.....	24	: <u>2</u> / 61	: 52	: 36	: 31	: 135	
India.....	99	: 256	: 214	: 217	: 129	: 106	: 159
Japan.....	143	: <u>2</u> / 85	: 88	: 74	: 62	: 96	
Canada.....	8	: <u>2</u> / 29	: 7	: 0	: 0	: 0	
United States.....	50	: 89	: 84	: 69	: 66	: 53	: 49
U.S.S.R.	<u>2</u> / 129	: <u>1</u> / 104	: 0	: 61	: 46	: 54	
Other countries.....	20	: 69	: 70	: 58	: 39	: 32	: 56
Total.....	1,742	: 1,451	: 1,727	: 1,485	: 1,081	: 915	: 1,319

1/ 3-year average.

2/ If any, included in other countries.

3/ 4-year average.

Source: Monthly Summary of the Foreign Trade of Egypt, Agricultural Attaches, and other United States representatives abroad.

First official acreage estimate for the 1956-57 crop is equivalent to 1,716,000 acres, or 9 percent below the 1,885,000 acres for the 1955-56 crop. The new crop is reportedly from 3 to 4 weeks late because of bad weather, and a large portion of it was replanted. The lateness intensified the danger of leaf worm which usually begins its attack in late June. Final estimates of the 1955-56 crop were for production of 1,535,000 bales.

Cotton consumption in Egypt during September-May 1955-56 amounted to 293,000 bales or 4 percent higher than consumption of 282,000 bales a year earlier. Ashmouni cotton amounted to 79 percent of this year's consumption as compared with 75 percent last year; Giza 30 was 9 percent as compared with 8 percent; Karnak was 3 percent as compared with 1 percent; and other varieties accounted for the balance.

Most of the cotton available for export in Egypt had been sold by the end of June 1956, although considerable quantities remained to be shipped. Total stocks as of May 31, 1956, were estimated at 353,000 bales as compared with 746,000 bales held a year earlier.

MILK PRODUCTION INCREASE APPARENT FOR SOME WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

In most Western European countries, dairy production, now past the seasonal peak, has benefited from the extensive rains which have fallen in the areas previously affected by dry weather. The seasonal decline in milk production is thus expected to be slower than usual. Despite the earlier dry weather, milk production in most of these countries has been somewhat above or at least equal to last year's level. In the United Kingdom, production in May was approximately 9 percent higher than in May, 1955. Processing plants received 25 percent more milk than a year ago and output of all manufactured products was in excess of last year, particularly butter and cheese.

Milk production in the Netherlands does not appear to have been affected by the dry weather, output in May being about 2 percent above May, 1955. Production of all manufactured dairy products except cheese was larger than a year ago.

In Western Germany, milk production increased and butter output was somewhat above the 1955 level. Nevertheless, import authorizations have been issued for 27 million pounds of butter to be imported during the next 3 months. The bulk of this butter is to come from Denmark, Sweden and the Netherlands, with smaller quantities from Australia and New Zealand. Some will also be supplied by Finland, France, Ireland, Norway, Austria, Hungary and the Union of South Africa.

DAIRY PRODUCTS PRICES: Wholesale prices at specified markets
with comparisons

(U. S. cents per pound)

Country, market and description	Butter				Cheese			
	Date 1956	Price	Quotations		Date 1956	Price	Quotations	
			Month	Year			Month	Year
			earlier	earlier			earlier	earlier
United Kingdom (London)								
New Zealand finest grade.	June 28	41.9	41.2	42.8	-	-	-	-
New Zealand finest white.	-	-	-	-	June 28	35.5	31.8	22.1
Australia (Sydney)								
Choicest butter.....	June 29	45.3	45.3	41.8	-	-	-	-
Choicest cheddar.....	-	-	-	-	June 29	27.5	27.5	25.7
Irish Republic (Dublin)								
Creamery butter.....	June 29	48.9	48.9	48.9	-	-	-	-
Cheese.....	-	-	-	-	June 29	30.8	30.8	30.8
Denmark (Copenhagen)								
	June 28	39.3	34.5	41.9	-	-	-	-
France (Paris)								
Charentes Creamery butter.....	July 2	80.5	79.2	64.9	-	-	-	-
Germany (Kempten)								
Markenbutter.....	June 27	65.7	65.9	63.0	-	-	-	-
United States								
92-score creamery (N.Y.).....	June 29	59.4	59.4	57.8	-	-	-	-
Cheddar (Wisconsin)....	-	-	-	-	June 29	35.1	35.1	33.1
Netherlands (Leeuwarden)								
Creamery butter.....	June 30	49.3	49.3	48.3	-	-	-	-
Full cream Gouda.....	-	-	-	-	June 22	23.1	22.7	23.1
Edam 40 percent.....	-	-	-	-	June 22	20.8	20.4	21.7
Belgium (Hasselt)								
	June 28	71.8	73.6	69.2	-	-	-	-
Canada (Montreal)								
1st grade creamery.....	June 16	57.2	58.2	57.6	-	-	-	-
Ontario white.....	-	-	-	-	June 16	33.6	30.4	29.5

Source: Intelligence Bulletin, The Commonwealth Economic Committee, U. S. Consular Reports and The Dairy Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.

U.K. IMPORT SITUATION FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS

The United Kingdom's imports of butter in May, 1956 at 62.0 million pounds were down 5 percent from May, 1955, attributed to a decline in supplies from New Zealand. In May, 1956, New Zealand shipped 15.7 million pounds, whereas last year during the same month, shipments were 27.0 million pounds. Imports from Australia amounted to 10.3 million pounds, 5.8 million pounds a year ago. Shipments from Denmark at 27.0 million pounds showed very little change from the previous year.

The total of the first 5 months of 1956 showed butter imports at 374 million pounds, an increase of almost 12 percent over the same period in 1955. Receipts during January -- May, 1956, of the primary supplying countries, were lower from Australia and the Netherlands. Ireland's exports were less than 100,000 pounds whereas in the first 5 months of 1955 it shipped more than 2 million pounds. New Zealand and Denmark both showed larger shipments in January -- May, 1956, than during the same period in 1955. Argentina's exports of 13.7 million pounds in the first 5 months of 1956 were almost 5 million pounds above 1955 shipments. Finland's exports, almost negligible in 1955 amounted to over 5 million pounds during January -- May, 1956.

Cheese imports were 31.5 million pounds in May of this year, compared with 25.3 million pounds in May, 1955. Supplies amounting to 23.7 million pounds from New Zealand more than offset the reduced shipments from Australia and Canada. Exports from Denmark were heavier this year, -- 3.0 million pounds as compared to 1.8 million pounds a year ago. Imports from the United States rose to 273,000 pounds from 1,344 pounds in May of last year.

Total cheese receipts during the first 5 months of 1956 stood at 141.8 million pounds, approximately the same as last year's 5 months figure. Australia was the only major exporter showing a loss from 1955. The 5 months shipments were 11.6 million pounds compared with a 1955 figure of more than 29 million pounds. New Zealand's shipments in the January -- May period at 103 million pounds offset almost exactly the loss of Australia. Received from the United States under a North American Continent quota, were 3.1 million pounds. The 5 months receipts in 1955 were only 10,000 pounds.

Imports of dried whole milk and nonfat dry milk in May were again above the 1955 level, totaling 7.7 million pounds, an increase of almost 25 percent. Of the 2.2 million pounds of dried whole milk imported in May, 1956 the Netherlands accounted for 1.5 million pounds. Australia supplied 2.8 million pounds of the 5.5 million pounds of nonfat dry milk imported in May, 1956. New Zealand, an important supplier in the earlier year with 3.8 million pounds out of total imports of 5.1 million pounds, shipped only 1.5 million pounds in May of this year.

Imports of dry whole milk for January -- May totaled 8 million pounds over one-third more than takings in the first 5 months of 1955. At the same time nonfat receipts were more than 80 percent greater at 49.2 million pounds. New Zealand and Australia were the main beneficiaries of the increased trade.

Canned milk imports amounted to 1.0 million pounds and consisted mostly of condensed milk. The May imports constituted the bulk of the first 5 months receipts which stood at 1.1 million pounds compared to 440,000 pounds in January -- May 1955.

MILK PRODUCTION DOWN IN DENMARK

Danish milk production at present is running about 5 percent below last year. This situation is expected to continue for some time as very dry weather during May and early June curtailed grass production. Output of butter is above 1955, cheese is below. This development may also prevail during the next few months, since the price of butter is more favorable than that of cheese. The price of butter received by farmers rose from 33 cents per pound to 36 cents per pound by mid - June. The price of cheese at the same time showed a downward movement.

TOTAL WORLD EXPORTS OF CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR AT RECORD HIGH IN 1955

Total world exports of centrifugal sugar increased to a record high in 1955 of 14,951 thousand short tons from a revised estimate of 14,090 thousand tons in 1954. This is an increase of 6.1 percent over 1954 and 29.5 percent larger than the 1935/39 average. Reported imports increased from 11,225 thousand tons in 1935/39 to 13,763 thousand in 1954 and 14,561 thousand in 1955.

Net exports of North and South America increased by 487 and 625 thousand tons, respectively, in 1955. Eastern and Western Europe and U.S.S.R. net imports increased by 1,436 thousand tons in 1955 over 1954, while Asian net imports decreased 326 thousand during the same period. In round numbers, the increase in net exports of North and South America equals the increase in net imports of Europe, U.S.S.R. and Asia.

Whereas the upward trend is noticeable in both exports and imports, the net export is 390 thousand tons in 1955. This is due to better statistics published for the exporting countries and the fact that many of the import figures are for an incomplete year.

Total exports in North America, including the Caribbean area, increased from 6.2 million tons in 1954 to 6.9 million tons in 1955. This is largely due to the increase of 520 thousand tons in Cuban exports. Dominican Republic increased her exports by 116 thousand tons.

Interest centers around European imports as this is one of the larger net importing areas. In 1955 Western European countries imported 2,944 thousand tons more than they exported. This is about 500,000 tons more than their net imports during 1954.

Eastern European countries have reported more complete export statistics this year than in previous years, which gives us a better picture of world exports. The import picture for the Eastern European countries is based mostly on reports from exporting countries and are therefore incomplete.

U.S.S.R. has reported her trade during the past two years which also adds to a more complete world trade picture.

Asia, one of the net importing areas declined during 1955 in both exports and imports. India contributed primarily to the decline and were in imports as she imported 436 thousand tons less in 1955 than in 1954. Indonesia and Republic of Philippines exports declined in 1955 and were 81 thousand tons below their 1954 exports. This decline was somewhat offset by Taiwan's increased exports.

South America increased her exports by over 600,000 tons due largely to the increase in Brazilian exports which exceeded their International Sugar Council quota. In 1954 Brazil exported 166 thousand tons and in 1955, 642 thousand tons.

Africa increased sugar exports from 1,116 thousand tons in 1954 to 1,196 thousand tons in 1955. Imports of sugar increased 54 thousand tons for the same period.

Oceania, like Asia, decreased both its imports and exports during 1955. The decline in Australian exports more than offset Fiji's increase.

SUGAR: centrifugal, raw value: International trade, averages 1935-39, 1945-49, annual 1954 and 1955

Continent and country	Averages					
	1935-39		1945-49		1954	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
NORTH AMERICA:						
British Honduras.....	0	623	0	586	1,013	747
Canada.....	1,621	484,659	5,558	515,943	336	655,573
Costa Rica.....	808	661	3,501	2,527	6,139	12
El Salvador.....	3,031	290	6,522	254	1,976	1,082
Guatemala.....	1,876	2	88	5	-	3/
Greenland.....	0	826	0	735	0	1,739
Honduras.....	0	6,289	0	6,181	0	2,844
Mexico.....	1,496	220	66,173	44,228	77,563	36
Miquelon and St. Pierre.....	29	271	0	229	0	178
Nicaragua.....	3,528	5	2,162	213	12,523	86
Panama.....	0	2,956	58	1,840	3,723	10
Panama Canal Zone.....	0	4,135	0	4,314	0	230
United States.....	92,500	3,000,018	178,151	3,424,061	6,741	3,795,087
CARIBBEAN:						
Antigua.....	24,436	277	20,135	-	11,633	-
Bahamas.....	0	1,750	0	1,524	0	8,535
Barbados.....	100,243	254	102,093	3	167,000	0
Bermuda.....	0	1,530	0	1,176	0	1,918
Cuba.....	2,871,267	0	5,245,347	0	4,613,165	30
Dominica.....	0	520	0	1,111	0	229
Dominican Republic.....	480,189	523	450,154	68	561,081	8
Grenada.....	0	565	0	1,362	0	443
Guadeloupe.....	53,721	69	52,993	0	113,169	0
Haiti.....	38,126	59	25,126	2	16,639	28
Jamaica.....	101,100	0	165,381	0	360,139	0
Martinique.....	58,354	0	24,429	0	68,613	0
Montserrat.....	0	588	0	7	0	5
Netherlands Antilles.....	0	4,183	57	6,140	36	2,514
St. Kitts.....	33,547	436	34,331	203	51,115	1
St. Lucia and St. Vincent.....	8,562	565	6,169	517	10,024	0
Trinidad and Tobago.....	140,161	431	101,680	-	167,787	110
Total North America.....	4,014,595	3,512,705	6,493,145	4,014,249	6,250,445	4,472,507
EUROPE						
Austria.....	24	594	488	58,654	1	33,166
Belgium.....	119,744	158,515	21,343	59,038	97,976	53,765
Channel Islands.....	0	2,406	0	3,184	0	3,883
Denmark.....	14,742	13,712	64,773	0	84,963	101
Faeroe Islands.....	0	80	0	944	0	-
Finland.....	0	115,944	0	67,618	0	125,051
Total Europe.....	134,516	278,759	88,611	121,796	183,940	181,951
Total North America and Europe.....	4,149,111	3,791,464	6,581,756	4,136,045	6,434,385	4,654,458

France.....	262,175	405,772	125,730	209,514	644,538	367,708	500,960	345,206
Germany, Federal Republic of....	-	556,000	-	247,938	0	78,864	5,512	342,539
Greece.....	0	84,854	0	57,600	0	74,827	0	80,022
Iceland.....	0	6,274	0	5,452	0	8,522	0	7,899
Ireland.....	0	39,181	0	22,207	0	36,121	0	77,250
Italy.....	19,605	26,718	5/	89,879	11	25,907	7	26,328
Malta and Gozo.....	0	11,497	0	8,127	0	11,994	0	7,766
Netherlands.....	64,473	162,018	74,485	183,931	77,792	182,734	139,355	317,376
Norway.....	23	111,917	98	95,504	1,316	161,783	1	143,180
Portugal.....	47	76,870	66	98,612	55,415	143,085	0	129,186
Spain 6/.....	2	56	13,958	20,710	15,397	15,397	0	32,180
Sweden.....	219	8,769	7,269	33,733	-	5,397	1,347	88,089
Switzerland.....	877	183,840	1,295	148,866	3,587	199,078	3,545	187,511
United Kingdom.....	404,678	2,462,840	398,072	1,890,896	842,293	2,709,853	865,366	2,509,273
Yugoslavia.....	1	1,265	10,148	22,660	0	0	0	56,146
Total Western Europe.....	886,610	4,429,125	717,920	3,325,067	1,807,893	4,241,236	1,639,298	4,583,294
Total Eastern Europe.....	930,638	49	153,000	-	898,541	75,017	7/	581,006
Total Europe.....	1,817,248	4,429,174	870,920	3,325,067	2,706,434	4,316,253	7/2,220,304	4,744,294
U. S. S. R. (Europe and Asia)	145,000	-	-	-	254,230	195,558	254,532	718,251
ASIA								
Aden.....	15,076	20,049	8,225	13,354	-	17,856	-	15,759
Other Arabian States.....	-	-	-	7,591	-	36,035	-	76,976
Cyprus.....	0	4,027	0	4,351	0	4,026	0	11,997
Iran 4/.....	-	92,675	2	107,373	-	235,373	2/	10,945
Iraq.....	269	47,723	0	55,118	0	141,817	0	159,227
Israel.....	0	29,059	0	32,000	0	52,950	0	86,728
Jordan.....	0	3,654	0	11,843	0	30,220	0	17,566
Lebanon.....	461	31,897	227	32,792	0	31,007	551	28,891
Syria.....	0	29,726	1,983	12,309	-	31,811	0	46,887
Turkey.....	0	9,289	0	5,338	0	6,666	0	6,485
Afghanistan.....	0	10,282	0	9,288	0	19,667	0	11,757
British Borneo.....	0	118,803	7,260	104,249	-	194,193	2/	21,193
British Malaya.....	18,630	1,254	-	4,644	16,842	27,543	26,610	230,124
Burma.....	69	87,673	0	101,594	-	157,910	-	27,563
Ceylon.....	4	333,675	5/	12,761	0	52,280	0	161,096
China including Manchuria.....	-	159,118	5/	39,782	0	6,693	3/	115,194
Mongolia.....	128,399	43,993	5/	2,415	64,935	116,734	0	7,051
Hong Kong.....	2,355	1,531	5/	9,931	105	642,139	59,447	116,185
India.....	1,033,090	2,001	192	29,064	0	59,877	80	206,495
Indochina.....	5/	1,067,738	5/	7,711	231,843	54	0	58,775
Indonesia.....	5/	195,533	5/	251,578	31,810	1,038,094	191,897	1,129,820
Japan.....	5/	33,246	5/	78,446	0	34,925	38,890	63,922
Korea, South.....	-	69,696	5/	1,225	-	2,691	0	2,599
Macau.....	10/	156	660	123,500	17	103,804	756	86,210
Pakistan.....	892,549	2,925	113,432	6,000	1,017,944	313	977,368	-
Philippines, Republic of.....	1,027,323	40,644	161,255	-	583,082	25	649,000	-
Taiwan (Formosa).....	64	-	243	9,332	2,850	31,681	4	44,985
Thailand.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Asia (excl. U.S.S.R.)..	3,392,315	2,366,868	448,665	1,039,264	1,949,428	3,074,684	1,944,603	2,744,730

Libya.....	12,397	0	6,234	5,169	0	3/	10,810
Madagascar.....	9,955	2,344	4,167	7,370	12,626	0	7,620
Mauritius.....	311,472	327,651	0	592,958	538,533	0	0
Mozambique.....	88,685	20	63,250	58,271	94,978	0	0
Nigeria and Cameroons.....	9,184	0	5,052	45,685	0	0	51,935
Angola.....	33,240	0	42,665	37,678	33,679	0	0
Portuguese Guinea.....	0	0	372	0	0	0	0
Sao Tome and Principe.....	0	5/	212	359	741	0	737
Reunion.....	82,978	2	92,753	186,520	180,941	0	0
Seychelles Islands.....	0	0	1,029	0	0	3/	1,264
Federation of Northern and Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.....	513	0	25,666	53,493	4	0	60,221
South West Africa.....	0	0	9,560	14,712	0	0	0
Spanish Morocco.....	0	0	10,774	5,447	0	3/	8,056
Tangier, Int'l Zone.....	0	5/	3,728	10,448	0	0	1,753
Tunisia.....	39,768	5/	39,877	70,939	0	0	75,928
Union of South Africa.....	235,313	51,445	7,321	244,307	266,238	0	324
Total Africa.....	881,384	625,856	428,083	1,116,488	1,196,102	1,168,662	
OCEANIA:							
Australia.....	4/	4/	84	717,592	700,078	0	0
Australian Territories.....	0	0	1,989	4,000	0	0	4,000
Fiji Islands.....	147,627	114,153	158,431	165,722	0	0	0
French Oceania.....	0	0	1,907	1,716	0	0	2,920
New Caledonia.....	0	0	2,000	2,406	0	2/	1,339
New Hebrides.....	0	0	0	622	0	2/	517
New Zealand.....	1,373	455	91,780	437	130,280	2/	91,481
South Sea Islands.....	66,911	0	1,540	0	0	0	600
Western Samoa.....	0	0	895	0	0	0	0
Other Br. Pacific Islands.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Oceania.....	686,704	387,784	100,111	876,460	139,624	866,150	100,857
Total World.....	11,542,050	11,225,039	9,444,511	9,256,939	14,089,761	14,950,869	14,560,584
U.S. Trade with Territories.....	3,777	1,875,568	5,650	1,712,055	11/	2,132,156	11/
Puerto Rico.....	907,579	39	968,405	514	1,082,032	11/	1,079,562
Hawaii.....	963,318	741	739,625	706	1,039,700	11/	1,052,004
Virgin Islands.....	4,671	0	4,025	1,198	10,424	11/	9,942
Alaska.....	0	2,997	0	3,232	0	11/	1,351
Guam.....	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	0
American Samoa.....	0	0	0	0	985	0	0
Wake Island.....	0	0	0	0	136	0	128
Total.....	1,879,345	1,879,345	1,717,705	1,717,705	2,140,780	2,150,965	2,150,965

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Incomplete year. 3/ Estimated on basis of exports of certain exporting countries. 4/ Crop year. 5/ Less than 5-year average; 6/ Canary Islands, Ceuta and Melilla considered provinces of Spain after January 1, 1953. 7/ Partly estimated on basis of importing countries. 8/ Viet nam only. 9/ One year only. 10/ Included in India's estimate. 11/ Sugar and related products.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Official estimates of foreign countries, reports of Agricultural Attaches and Other U. S. representatives abroad and results of office research and other information.

CANADIAN SEED CROP PROSPECTS GENERALLY UNFAVORABLE

Canadian seed crop prospects, as a whole, are far from favorable according to the July 17th report of the Canadian Department of Agriculture. They vary from no seed for sugar beets, due to complete winter-killing of the stechlings (dormant small roots) in the field, a heavy winter kill of Alsike with a prospective small crop, to favorable prospects for Meadow Fescue, Kentucky Bluegrass and Canadian Bluegrass.

In general most of the seed crops in Alberta and British Columbia seemed to have suffered considerable winter injury, which together with the dry, backward spring retarded growth and seed set. Some winter damage was also reported in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Ontario and other eastern provinces had little or no winter-killing, but the late, cold spring adversely affected growth.

Alfalfa prospects are for a smaller crop - much smaller in Saskatchewan, down some in Alberta but likely to be somewhat larger in Manitoba. Red Clover prospects are very poor because of heavy winter-kill in the west. Heavy winter losses of single-cut in Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan point to a very small crop. Double-cut did not have as severe winter losses but the need for hay may also reduce the acreage for seed. Alsike Clover stands were badly injured by winter-kill in Alberta and British Columbia. Sweet Clover is also likely to be a very short crop in Alberta and Saskatchewan because of winter-kill, but Manitoba crop prospects look good. Timothy is likely to be a smaller crop because of reduced acreages for seed in the east. The weather has been unfavorable for seed development. Brome grass and Crested Wheatgrass prospects are poorer than last year in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Manitoba Brome prospects look good. Creeping Red Fescue is likely to have a smaller crop than in 1955 because of lack of moisture. Meadow Fescue, Kentucky and Canadian Bluegrass prospects appear equal to last year.

In cereal crops, production of seed oats is likely to be down because of reduced acreages. Winter wheat prospects in Ontario are less promising than last year. Winter rye was damaged in Saskatchewan. Alberta cereal seed crops are improving.

Prospects in British Columbia for vegetable and root crops appear to be satisfactory. A larger pea acreage is indicated. Sugar beet seed prospects are poor due to winter-kill of stechlings in the Fraser Valley. Eastern seed crops appear to be improving in spite of late plantings. Smaller acreages are indicated for mangels and swedes (Rutabagas).

PANAMA SEEKS TO INCREASE COCONUT PRODUCTION

The Panamanian Government is continuing its policy of trying to increase the production of coconuts and copra which are needed for consumption in that country. The Government is trying to do this mainly through price supports and various controls on imports.

Panama has two objectives in its price support of coconuts and copra. The first is to bring the people of the San Blas coconut-producing area more into the economy of the nation. That area has the greatest concentration of coconuts with an annual production of about 2 million nuts. In the past the San Blas Indians have bartered their coconuts in a nearby country for other necessities. By making such necessities available in the area, and by the price support system, the need for that barter has been reduced.

The second objective of price supports is to augment the supply of edible oil for the oil processing plant in Panama City. Deficits in oil producing materials are being made up presently by imports of copra from the Philippines.

Whenever deficits develop in production of a commodity, the Government imports the necessary supplementary quantities either direct or under quotas to commercial firms. In February 1956 the Government prohibited importations of a number of agricultural commodities and controlled the imports of others, including coconuts and copra. These controls and prohibitions are aimed at protection or increase of national production.

A law was passed in 1950 which is intended to attract and promote national and foreign investment of capital used in the exploitation of natural resources and for the establishment of agricultural and other industries. Through tax-free privileges on raw materials needed by growing industries and by tax exemptions on the export of their finished products, the law seeks to promote national production. This law has been utilized for the establishment and promotion of several industries which use agricultural products, one example being the vegetable oil factory which obtains much governmental assistance in importations of copra and in procurement of coconuts and copra from the San Blas producers. As a part of this support, imports of copra are controlled by the Office of Price Regulation.

BRAZILIAN FIBER PRODUCTION INCREASING

The sisal and jute fiber production industries of Brazil have emerged from an output of negligible quantities before World War II to current positions of self-sufficiency. Sisal production was estimated at 198.4 million pounds in 1955 or an increase of 43 percent over the output in 1954. Domestic needs are estimated at about 20 to 25 million pounds, and the balance, equal to about 177 million pounds last year, was exported. Jute production in 1955 was estimated at about 57.1 million pounds compared with 51.4 million in 1954. The supply of jute, augmented by that of other similar fibers, is sufficient to supply bagging needs of the country.

SISAL: Estimates of actual sisal production in Brazil have been difficult to obtain. A preliminary estimate of the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture placed production in 1955 as high as 216.1 million pounds from an area of 229,100 acres. However, some decrease in estimated carryover stocks, exports of about 177 million pounds, together with consumption of about 26.5 million pounds, would indicate a supply from the 1955 harvest of roughly 205 million pounds of sisal including the caroa production of possibly 6.6 million pounds.

Consumption of sisal in Brazil is believed to include all the caroa production (for which separate data are not available) plus about 10 percent of the sisal production. Consumption has increased considerably in the manufacture of sisal products other than cordage, especially inexpensive rugs and mats.

The size of the 1956 sisal crop, based on planted acreage without allowance for any other factors, would be expected to be about equal to the 1955 crop. Caroa production may increase by as much as 2 million pounds. According to a source of the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, sisal production may decline as much as 20 percent within 2 or 3 years as a result of a marked slow down in replacing overaged plants.

JUTE: Brazilian jute production in 1955 was officially estimated at 57.1 million pounds (preliminary figure), from nearly 60,000 acres. Trade estimates indicate current year production at possibly 66 million pounds, although seed distribution was larger. The quality of Brazilian jute has been improving. Production is expected to continue on an upward trend.

Other Brazilian fibers are used with jute in the manufacture of bagging. Production of malva and uacima in the past year is estimated at 17.6 million and 8.8 million pounds, respectively,

giving a total of close to 26.5 million pounds. Malva production in the current year is expected to be at about the same level as last year, but uacima production is decreasing and may be no more than 4 or 5 million pounds this year. The total supply of bagging fibers available in Brazil this year is expected to be about 88 million pounds.

Stocks of bagging fibers carried into the current year were low, because of the greater demand for coffee bags in 1955. Bagging needs are not expected to exceed those of the past year, but demand is expected to leave fiber stocks low at the mills by the close of the year.

IMPROVED CROP PRODUCTION OUTLOOK FOR NORTH INDIA TEA

The tea crop production for North India for the first 3 months of the new crop year April 1, 1956 to June 30, 1956, is up 8.44 percent over the previous year's same period. The 3 months' total for 1956 is 125,065,130 pounds compared to 115,338,883 pounds produced during the same period in 1955. The average production for the past 3 years, not including 1956, for the same 3 months period, April through June, is 113,233,907 pounds.

This year's June tea crop in Northeast India has broken the previous record of 1950 by a full 5 million pounds.

OUTLOOK:

There is a report that Russia will purchase about 25 million pounds of this year's tea crop. To date, Russia's purchasing agent has bought 5 million pounds of tea in the Calcutta market. Personal contacts say their agent makes discretionary purchases in comparatively small lots.

According to reports the average quality of this year's tea crop coming to market has been better than that of last year, indicating a finer and more careful job of plucking. It is thought that this will be an important factor in maintaining a good average price for all teas marketed if the practice is maintained throughout this year. Consequently, the opportunities for a profitable year will be enhanced for all tea producers.

SYRIA HAS RECORD EXPORTABLE SURPLUSES OF WHEAT AND BARLEY

Recent reports indicate that Syria this year has record exportable surpluses of wheat and barley. Estimates place the wheat crop at 875,000 metric tons and the barley crop at 550,000 tons. The exportable surplus of wheat for the 1956-57 marketing season (July-June) is placed at 300,000 tons, including a carryover of 25,000 tons. The exportable surplus of barley is placed at 400,000 tons.

U. S. EXPORTS ABOUT 340 MILLION BUSHELS OF WHEAT IN 1955-56

Earlier estimates that United States combined exports of wheat and flour during the 1955-56 (July-June) marketing season would approximate the 340 million bushel (grain equivalent) level are now fairly well confirmed. Official figures show that exports during the first 11 months (July-May) of the season amounted to 291.2 million bushels wheat equivalent against 246.7 million in the same period a year earlier. Unofficial estimates based on boat loadings and inspections for export in June add an additional 40.0 million bushels of wheat to the 11-months total and the equivalent of 4.3 million bushels in the form of flour.

Indications are that wheat in the form of grain accounted for approximately 290 million bushels of the estimated 1955-56 exports, and flour for about 50 million bushels. During 1954-55, when the country's wheat and flour exports totaled 273 million bushels, wheat as grain amounted to 227.2 million, and flour, including the wheat equivalent of semolina and macaroni, 46.3 million bushels.

The outstanding feature of the nation's combined exports of wheat and flour during the first 11 months (July-May) of the 1955-56 season were the large increases in exports to African and Western Hemisphere markets and the substantial increase in exports to Asiatic countries. Especially noteworthy were the increased shipments to Egypt, Brazil, Japan, Pakistan and French North Africa. Despite a large increase in exports to the Netherlands, Italy and France, total shipments to European destinations during this 11-months period show a substantial reduction due mainly to reduced exports to the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom and Norway. Also deserving of note is the reduction this year in exports to Turkey.

Preliminary estimates based on inspections of overseas exports of wheat by classes and coastal areas indicate that of the estimated total of 290 million bushels moved abroad as wheat during the 1955-56 season slightly more than 40 percent consisted of Hard Red Winter, more than 26 percent of White, slightly more than 23 percent of Soft Red Winter, somewhat more than 8 percent of Hard Red Spring and around 2 percent of mixed wheat. Fully 43 percent of the season's wheat exports moved abroad from Atlantic ports, 34 percent from Gulf ports and 23 percent from Pacific ports.

United States Exports of Wheat and Flour During Stated Periods

Destination	July-May 1954-55			July-May 1955-56		
	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total
	(Thousands of bushels, grain equivalent)					
Western Hemisphere						
Canada.....	2	106	108	1,672	218	1,890
Mexico.....	13	8	21	4,021	12	4,033
Central America.....	530	3,397	3,927	853	3,591	4,444
Cuba.....	1,259	3,334	4,593	2,150	3,212	5,362
British West Indies.....	-	2,450	2,450	-	2,212	2,212
Other Caribbean.....	12	2,101	2,113	25	1,780	1,805
Colombia.....	485	242	727	2,443	87	2,530
Venezuela.....	216	3,200	3,416	83	4,189	4,272
Peru.....	1,377	132	1,509	3,304	184	3,488
Bolivia.....	2,156	1,227	3,383	1,655	1,065	2,720
Chile.....	-	58	58	1,388	4	1,392
Brazil.....	8,916	5	8,921	15,016	889	15,905
Others.....	254	1,225	1,479	707	1,189	1,896
Total.....	15,220	17,485	32,705	33,317	18,632	51,949
Europe						
Norway.....	4,721	1,323	6,044	1,744	1,127	2,871
United Kingdom.....	24,074	498	24,572	18,653	1,566	20,219
Netherlands.....	9,813	3,648	13,461	17,321	2,994	20,315
France.....	-	1	1	3,261	-	3,261
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	6,927	18	6,945	4,904	18	4,922
West Germany.....	24,346	63	24,409	15,778	1	15,779
Austria.....	440	-	440	1,499	-	1,499
Spain.....	2,254	-	2,254	1,270	-	1,270
Portugal.....	1,420	181	1,601	2,552	327	2,879
Italy.....	761	65	826	3,960	1,026	4,986
Yugoslavia.....	36,030	11	36,041	35,273	11	35,284
Greece.....	12,071	2	12,073	11,786	6	11,792
Others.....	2,223	262	2,485	2,202	165	2,367
Total.....	125,080	6,072	131,152	120,203	7,241	127,444
Asia						
Turkey.....	7,034	-	7,034	4,037	-	4,037
Lebanon.....	11	3,074	3,085	-	2,734	2,734
Israel.....	8,000	7	8,007	7,714	8	7,722
Saudi Arabia.....	234	1,809	2,043	301	1,855	2,156
India.....	5,334	48	5,382	4,986	37	5,023
Pakistan.....	288	2	290	4,648	-	4,648
Indochina.....	-	-	-	-	1,487	1,487
Philippines.....	1	5,069	5,070	-	4,355	4,355
Korea.....	1,843	548	2,391	4,089	-	4,089
Formosa.....	6,870	-	6,870	6,995	6	7,001
Japan.....	30,930	837	31,767	36,751	1,142	37,893
Others.....	1,072	1,931	3,003	617	1,807	2,424
Total.....	61,617	13,325	74,942	70,138	13,431	83,569
Africa						
French North Africa.....	-	10	10	2,042	397	2,439
Egypt.....	-	1,172	1,172	16,754	419	17,173
Canary Islands.....	219	-	219	1,849	-	1,849
British West Africa.....	-	2,217	2,217	-	2,462	2,462
Union of South Africa.....	1,767	-	1,767	1,082	-	1,082
Others.....	927	1,525	2,452	767	1,338	2,105
Total.....	2,913	4,924	7,837	22,494	4,616	27,110
Miscellaneous						
Oceania.....	-	7	7	-	18	18
Unspecified.....	-	103	103	4	1,139	1,143
Total.....	-	110	110	4	1,157	1,161
World Total	204,830	41,916	246,746	246,156	45,077	291,233

1/ Wholly of U.S. wheat.

SYRIA EXPECTS RECORD COTTONSEED OUTPUT

Syria's commercial production of cottonseed in 1956 is expected to reach a new high of over 250,000 short tons from a greatly increased cotton acreage aided by abundant winter rainfall. If world oil prices are favorable, it seems likely that most, if not all, of the increase over the record 1955 crop of 187,000 tons will be exported.

Syria's expanding cotton crop is by far its most important source of oilseed production. In 1955, 64,000 tons of cottonseed were crushed for oil, 14,000 tons were used for seed and over 81,000 tons were exported.

With a cottonseed oil carryover at the beginning of 1955 of 1,300 tons, estimated oil production of 8,300 tons and imports at 100 tons, the total supply was 9,700 tons. Local consumption accounted for 7,000 tons and exports for 2,100 tons, leaving stocks on December 31 at about 600 tons.

Of the estimated 1955 production of about 25,000 tons of cottonseed cake and 10,000 tons of other cakes and meal, about 28,000 tons were exported.

U. S. EXPORTS OF SOYBEAN AND COTTONSEED
OILS FOR JANUARY-JUNE AT RECORD LEVEL

Exports of both soybean and cottonseed oils from the United States during the first half of 1956 were at an all-time record rate, according to preliminary estimates. These estimates are predicated in part on adjustments made by the Foreign Agricultural Service of preliminary Census Bureau data for June.

With soybean oil exports in June maintaining the high rate of previous months, the January-June total of 253 million pounds was more than 12 times the figure recorded for the first half of 1955. Including estimated January-June soybean exports of 23.4 million bushels--which exceeded the previous 6-month record of 21.2 million bushels in 1955--the annual rate of exports of oil and beans in bean equivalent set during the first semester is over 90 million bushels, compared with record high total exports of 80 million bushels in 1955.

Cottonseed oil exports in June exceeded June, 1955 shipments by 10 percent, and the January-June total of 371 million pounds was nearly one-fourth greater than in the first half of last year. At this rate, total 1956 exports of cottonseed oil would exceed by over 100 million pounds the record annual level of about 630 million pounds set in 1954 and 1955.

Though exports of oilcakes and meal in June dropped to 80 percent of the previous June's exports, an all-time record volume of 260,000 short tons was shipped abroad during the first 6 months, exceeding the previous high set in January-June, 1955 by over 70 percent. The relative increase in exports of linseed cake and meal is marked, although soybean cake and meal continued to make up the bulk of the shipments of cake and meal.

COTTONSEED OIL, SOYBEAN OIL, OILCAKES AND MEALS: Preliminary estimates of United States exports in June and January-June, 1956 and actual exports, June and January-June, 1955

Commodity	1955		1956	
	June	Jan-June	June	Jan-June
	(Actual)		(Estimated)	
<u>Million pounds</u>				
Cottonseed oil, refined.....	56.3	204.2	34.4	170.2
Cottonseed oil, refined and further processed.....	4.8	45.3	9.2	84.7
Cottonseed oil, crude.....	1.5	49.4	25.4	115.8
Total cottonseed oil.....	62.6	298.9	69.0	370.7
Soybean oil, refined.....	1.1	11.0	2.6	39.9
Soybean oil, refined and further processed.....	1.5	5.1	22.9	178.9
Soybean oil, crude.....	0.4	2.5	13.4	34.4
Total soybean oil.....	3.0	18.6	38.9	253.2
<u>Thousand short tons</u>				
Cottonseed cake and meal.....	16.4	58.3	2.6	32.9
Linseed cake and meal.....	3.0	13.0	5.6	49.6
Soybean cake and meal.....	15.7	80.7	19.9	177.4
Total cake and meal 1/.....	35.1	152.0	28.1	259.9

1/ Excluding peanut cake and meal, exports of which have been negligible since 1952.

NOTE: The estimates for June 1956 are based on preliminary data prepared by the Census Bureau for special Foreign Trade Reports Nos. FT 5502 and 5503. These data represent totals of weekly processing of export declarations (covering shipments valued at \$5,000 and over for oils and \$1,000 and over for cake and meal) for inclusion in the statistical month concerned and are subject to revision before they are included in the Census Bureau's published figures. The Foreign Agricultural Service has made certain adjustments in the original data to make allowance for export shipments not included in Reports Nos. FT 5502 and 5503. The figures for January-June 1956 were obtained by adding published export data for January-May to the preliminary FAS estimates for June. The error between the May preliminary estimates published in Foreign Crops and Markets of June 25, 1956, and the published export data for May was less than 1 per cent for each of the three totals shown in the table.

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